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HALLMARK

united states army security agency



THAILAND



Can Enlisted Women Go Tactical?

The Army Security Agency is going tactical . . . that's a statement few will take issue with . . . it will happen. And ASA's women as well as its men will join the tactical environment. Gone are the days of regimenting a woman to the kitchen, office or the hospital ward . . . here are the days of women in the field . . . But what do our enlisted women, trained for a tactical unit, think about their role in a tactical ASA . . . what will their role be? Following are some of their ideas.

Equally qualified

The role I play as a woman in a tactical unit is quite similar to that of the man. As an 05H20, I am equally qualified. No differences were made in school. As a combat soldier I feel somewhat inadequate, since a definite difference was made in basic and in field training. I'm not saying that the difference is only in the mind of others as I personally prefer there being a difference. The concept behind being tactical is for constant preparedness in war and the motivation of men in wartime is that they are protecting the home front. What would you think if what you're trying to protect is lying next to you in the foxhole, M-16 in hand?"

SP4 370th ASA CO

No special place

"I really don't think there's a special place in tactical ASA for women. There's nothing here that any person (either male or female) can't do given motivation. The tactical ASA just doesn't carry a sexual label. I just try to fit in as "one of the people" rather than "one of the women"."

SP4 370th ASA CO

Same as men

"Women are in peacetime tactical ASA the same as men. There is a place for everyone if they really want it. Women can be trained to take it if they are not in shape physically. Mental capabilities for some women may be a problem just as they are for some men. Many

men and women still feel a real woman has a certain role she must act out in order to prove she's a real woman. Times are changing! I do not wish to be around in wartime tactical ASA. The fact is many men do not wish to be here in wartime either."

SP4, 370th ASA CO

Thoughts are torn

As a WAC in tactical ASA, my thoughts are torn. As a traffic analyst, I feel I can perform my work as well as any equally positioned male. I enjoy my work and always strive to improve myself. As for the tactical aspects, I feel my performance is lacking. I am one of the few WACS who refuses to fire a weapon—feeling it is not a woman's place to be behind an M-16. Other tactical training such as field maneuvers including escape and evasion, night compass courses, CBR, etc, these I know I cannot equal in performance to the men. Only due to the limitations of bodily strength and exposure to them as a child such as Boy Scouts, etc. During peace time utilization I feel a WAC can perform well in tactical ASA, but should an occasion arise where the troops of ASA are called to a war situation, any WAC who still holds my ideals would not fit well into the tactical scene."

SP4, 370th ASA CO

Won't reenlist

As a person in tactical ASA, I have to say I won't reenlist for it. There shouldn't be a role for women and a role for men, or one for people with gray hair. Why not the same for every person? After all, we all get paid equally by rank."

SP4, 370th ASA CO

Be there with the guys

I feel my place in tactical ASA is to ETS as soon as possible. However, if I were called back to ASA once I was out, I should be out there with the guys. As far as I'm concerned tactical ASA is as bad or worse than basic training."

SP4 VHFS

Military Equality

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Our Cover - A decade of service ends as the flag is lowered for the last time at the 7th RRFS.

Cover by SP5 Michael White and Ron Crabtree

Earlier this year, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld signed the Department of Defense Equal Opportunity Program directive. Following are some remarks he made at that time.

"Providing for our country's security and the freedom of our people is the primary and the obvious mission of our Department. The freedoms we defend grant each individual the right to expect fair and equal treatment. The defense of this freedom is a solemn responsibility and a public trust. I'm determined that this Department's daily business be conducted in a manner that assures that there is no discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin in our various activities.

"This revised directive is a step toward that. It broadens the scope of the Department's Equal Opportunity Program to embrace all activities of the Department. Equal opportunity cannot, in my judgement, be viewed as relating only to employment. People are affected, directly or indirectly, by all of our activities. Each must be performed in accordance with the principle of equal opportunity. Adherence to this principle is an important part of our responsibility in defending America's freedom.

"This directive is only a piece of paper and it remains for everyone throughout the Defense Establishment in this country and around the world to see that it is complied with in both the letter and the spirit. Freedom is a very precious thing and certainly it's appropriate in our Bicentennial Year to appreciate that, and to see that each of us is sensitive to its meaning for all of our citizens."

Winner of 3 Blue Pencil Awards from the Federal Editors Association,
International Award of Merit
Award of Merit and Award of Excellence from the Society for Technical Communication,
Keith L. Ware Award from Department of the Army

Brigadier General William I. Rolya, *Commander, US Army Security Agency*

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Ramasun Station, with its huge antenna array, stands quiet after troop withdrawal.

The Ending of an Era

"...we had known for a long time something was going to happen on March 20; but we didn't know exactly what..."

It was nearing midnight that 20th day of March 1976 when official word finally reached the 7th Radio Research Field Station in Thailand.

For almost a year negotiations between the Thai government and the United States had been continuing. One day it looked like American operations would remain. . .the next, preparations for closing would be discussed.

By direction of the United States Embassy, the American flag had been taken down and the Royal Thai government symbol flew alone. For three days, personnel had been restricted to the base.

And finally at 2200 hours, word arrived from Arlington Hall. Negotiations had failed. . .begin preparations immediately to move mission and personnel.

During the next 92 days, members of the 7th RRFS kept a detailed log of both official and light-hearted happenings. The following account is culled from that log and the remembrances of Colonel Joseph Howard, the 7th's last commander.

Named after the mythical god of thunder, Ramasun Station closed its doors after a decade of service

Rumors to Reality: Ramasun's Last Hours

The mood had been restless all weekend. When the final word came a cheer went up in the non-commissioned officer's club as Colonel Howard read The Announcements.

Monday, March 21, 1976, the time: 0022 hours—shut-down of the 7th RRFS officially begins.

Preparations by the comptroller for processing of financial records were already underway...extra personnel were called in to man message lines.

...0130 pizza arrives—everybody gets a little fuel in their engines, notes the log.

...0500 briefing in conference room...outprocessing will be held en masse in the gymnasium starting at 0530...expected to be completed by 1200 hours...

...1030 processing completed...

...1630 word received that two transport planes are on the way...a contingent of personnel are processed and ready to go...

...1740 reportedly nine busloads of people, presumably students, are headed toward post...and 1500 students are reportedly engaged in scuffles in front of the American embassy in Bangkok...some have been injured.

...1850 first plane departs

...1935 students have passed Khon Kaen and should be about 30 minutes away...Thai security forces have stated they will wait at

gates for arrival of students.

...2035 small group of pro-American villagers have assembled at front gate.

...2040 word received of bombing in Siam Square in Bangkok...37 injured and one dead...

...2055 approximately 200 pro-American villagers are forming a defense line...they do not intend to let students off buses.

...2115 approximately 1000 pro-Americans are at a roadblock one mile south of Udorn and 500 Samlar drivers are holding a pro-American rally...we must remember that the majority of our reports on demonstrations have been greatly exaggerated.

...2155 word is no buses were sighted by Thai police or highway patrol at all.

...2230 TV news in CONUS has stated that four Thai students have been killed in action...we have not heard anything here on that subject...this could be related to the incident reported at 2040 and exaggerated. We do not know when (time) that occurred.

As dawn broke on the 22nd, the second planeload of soldiers left Thailand and the communication circuits at the 7th flickered off and on. It would take most of the day to get those circuits back in total operation.

Logistical planning on deployment of mission and men continued until the morning of the

23rd...then the message came...“abandon all plans to move men and equipment”...

For the next several days, modified planning would continue while awaiting word from the states on the future of negotiations with the Thai government.

Although working under uncertain conditions, the “loggers” retained their humor.

...2000 March 26...two white ducks are swimming in the pond and all is quiet...

On March 27, Arlington Hall officials decided to let the continuous communications circuit go back to an “as needed” basis. That would happen at 0415 hours.

...0415 Captain Pat Seiler called to see if there were any last requests (I don't mean that like it sounds)

...there were none and both ends signed down.

...1050 April 1...a C5A aircraft came in—there is still some hope to the outside world...

...0400 April 17...message from Arlington Hall stating they are closing for the holiday weekend (Easter eggs, no close facsimile of, Duckseggs anyone!)

Finally word was received, the 7th RRFS would be deployed...the soldiers would be leaving.

“I'd stand there and see the people off...whole plane loads at a time,” Col Howard reflects. “I always went down to see them off.

RAMASUN

Opened 1966

Closed 1976

Not Forgotten

"Maybe an Army officer is not supposed to feel anything, but I felt quite close to the troops."

"It's a little different to go to a unit, take command and then be reassigned in a year, leaving everyone else behind," he continues. "But in this case, I had to stay. . .everyone was leaving me."

The official log ends on May 19. But the remaining soldiers hold memories of another month.

Memories of what Col Howard describes as the "absolutely outstanding" performance of his

troops. . ."they performed with a professional flair and a sense of humor. . ."

"It was the PFC, the SP4 who made the retrograde a success," he comments. "There was a minimum of fuss and no prodding. We didn't always understand what was coming down from the Washington level, but everyone of them did their best."

At 1425 hours on June 20, Col Howard turned, cast a lingering glance at the empty facility and left. . .the last American soldier to leave Ramasun Station.

At the End Come Honors

Congratulations are in order for the personnel of the 7th Radio Research Field Station.

On May 28, 1976, they received notification that Brigadier General William I. Rolya had chosen the 7th as winner of the Commanding General's Plaque for CY 1975, the final year it will be presented.

In his message to Colonel Joseph Howard, Commander of the 7th, General Rolya said: "This singular honor is a tribute to the fine achievements attained by your unit and attests to the dedication of your people."

He also said . . . "selecting a winner was most difficult. However, all recommendations were considered outstanding and all nominees should be proud of their accomplishments."

Since its beginning in 1964, ten units have won the CG's Plaque. They are: HQ USASA Pacific, 1964; 313TH ASA Battalion, 1965; USASA Training Center and School, 1966; 509TH, 1967; USASAFS Herzo, 1968; USASA Materiel Support Command, 1969; USASAFS Hakata, 1971; 502D ASA Group, 1973; USASA Signal Security Activity, 1974; with the 7TH RRFS winning it in 1970, 1972, and again for 1975.



The flag is lowered, folded and presented by Col Howard for shipment to the Commander, USASA. A moment those who served with the 7th will not soon forget.

UPI (Abadan, Iraq—HQ U.S. Forces Middle East) Enemy commandos launched a series of simultaneous hit and run raids against American Headquarters, communications and logistic sites early this morning. A military spokesman said that U.S. casualties were moderate during the pre-dawn attacks before the raiders were driven off by a counterattack launched with American Forces from nearby combat units. Included in the reported 33 U.S. troops killed in action were eight female soldiers.

While the above fictional news story could some day become a reality, the Army Security Agency seems to be in a quandary about how to employ women soldiers in tactical (TOE) units.

Field commanders are questioned for ideas, studies are prepared at higher headquarters and officers are sent TDY on survey/fact finding trips. The big problem seems to be to determine how to employ women on, or near, the battlefield of the future. It also appears that the parameters and limitations on their utilization will be set by male commanders.

The current trend appears to prohibit enlisted women from certain categories of ASA units because of the probable deployment of these units on certain areas of the battlefield. Essentially, what this means is, no enlisted women in division support companies since doctrine calls for most of their sub-elements to operate in a brigade tactical area. This exclusion will work during peacetime training but may present some problems when the shooting starts.

First, as a liberated chauvinist who believes that women can function in many areas of the combat support roles, I support the Army's policy of keeping women out of direct combat units and jobs. The point is non-negotiable for myself as well as

Part II

Going Tactical

By Cpt James D. Pearson Jr.
303d ASA Bn

most males.

Frankly, I've never heard a WAC seriously express a desire to be a tanker or rifleperson. Excluding direct combat duties, what are the problems associated with having a significant number of women soldiers performing their MOS duties in a tactical environment?

Women can't "take it" under field conditions for an extended period like men.

This largely unspoken argument of the male is becoming more filmy each month. From my own experience, at Ft Hood and other maneuver areas, I have seen women perform as well as their male counterparts under tactical conditions.

Admittedly, tactical field training is not combat, but even for men it's as close as we get until hostilities erupt somewhere.

I do have my doubts about effectiveness of some women soldiers observed in the field. However, the same doubts are also present for some men including some leaders.

When properly trained and led, most enlisted women can perform on a par with men in combat support roles, to include virtually all the tactical ASA missions. Perhaps we mentally deride women soldiers because of physical strength limitations.

Well, I can't double time very long with a fifty pound load myself. But that type of strength is not required for the ASA mission.

What is required in combat is physical stamina—the type that is induced by mental discipline. It used to be called "guts" before that word became so unfashionable. In this area of motivation and mental purpose, women can more than match men.

During a recent FTX with my company, a forced march was undertaken with field gear and weapons. The five mile distance



CPT Pearson oversees preparations for training of 303d soldiers. (Photos by SP4 Jared Stein)

was covered in a respectable 70 minutes by most of the company, to include all the women.

Bringing up the rear, and in some cases, failing to complete the hike, were an embarrassing number of males, including NCOs and officers.

Women, even in a defensive combat situation, won't be able to carry their weight and will be a tactical liability.

This premise is mostly based on the American experience of having women in war, but never at war. A survey of foreign examples in history, especially in civil and irregular conflicts, shows that women have the ability to "swap bullets" with the best of men.

Social Anthropologist, Dr. Margaret Meade, once advanced the theory that Western civilizations have excluded women from warfare because they would bring an unacceptable level of savagery to it. Perhaps!

The Army policy presently has women handling rifles in training on an equal basis with men. The question nagging in the backs of the minds of male commanders at all levels is: Can they really use those weapons in a temporary

defensive situation? When the unit is under local attack, will there be a division of labor into "boy jobs" (defending the position) and "girl jobs" (watching the equipment, acting as medic, etc)?

If this becomes practice, then certainly women have no place near the tactical zone. But if it does become practice, it will be the fault of the leadership—whether it be male or female.

If peacetime training experience has any validity then women can be taught to handle the entire array of light weapons and munitions with the same degree of confidence and effectiveness as men. I've seen this in my unit.

Granted the enlisted women can be taught the mechanics of weapons handling, but will they use them when required?

This seems to be another way of asking if they will "freeze" or "break down" under fire. This question can also be asked of any male soldier since a soldier's reaction under fire is the interaction of his leadership, training, and personal character—each of which is retested daily on the battlefield.

"ASA has shown that women can do the job in a tactical situation..."

A better question for leaders in tactical units is: Am I providing equal training for both sexes?

American male troops, as well as the general public, aren't ready yet to experience WACs becoming battlefield casualties, or even prisoners of war. This may or may not really be true. I've never seen any sort of valid survey on the feelings of the U.S. public towards women casualties in combat.

Certainly most male soldiers would have strong feelings about a wounded woman if she were someone close. As for WACs at large, the true feelings of men are probably untested yet.

Women are performing jobs in the Army now that were totally unimaginable when I was commissioned six years ago. Not that they couldn't do the jobs, but it simply wasn't heard of as proper.

The point is that attitudes are changing at a rapid rate, and under the demands of combat I would not want to predict the limits of male chivalry in the near future.

For me, a sucking chest wound or traumatic amputation is equally horrible regardless of the physique of the body. Men have shown very little second thought to women and children being smashed up on the highways.

The tactical mission of sexually mixed units will be degraded due to the interpersonal relationships between the soldiers.

This unspoken concern of commanders and leaders is that their units will be less effective due to interference from romantic and sexual relations between the male and female troops.



Along with 1LT Susan A. Browning, CPT Pearson surveys the 303d's deployment area.

Certainly an excess of most anything can be harmful, but this fear seems to be an acknowledgment of the breakdown of the leadership chain rather than any genuine concern about personal conduct affecting mission capability. Just as it is easier to lead a unit in peace instead of combat, it is probably simpler to command an all male unit than a sexually integrated one. That's no reason to abrogate responsibility.

If the chain of command is strong and the training/mission sound, then mixed units can function effectively. There's no real evidence in our military experience or history to prove otherwise since WACs have been allowed to perform more than domestic duties in the Army in recent years.

It's curious that Americans have never objected to numbers of women in proximity to war zone as long as they were indigenous

camp followers or U.S. women performing traditional roles such as nursing. Yet there is such emotion shown at the female soldiers doing useful and required military duties.

In training situations I'm satisfied that ASA has shown that enlisted women can do the job in a tactical situation. They can drive vehicles, maintain the equipment, operate the positions, and handle the weapons. They require proper leadership and training from the cadre, but so do the men.

A great deal of mental anguish has gone into devising a system to keep women in the Army away from combat. A study of current Soviet and American tactical doctrine indicates that the time would be better spent learning how to keep combat away from the women.

The quantity and quality of the equipment our potential enemies have is such that it will be ex-

tremely hard to rely on such arbitrary protection as brigade rear boundaries and categorizing our combat support units.

The manpower needs of the support units, coupled with the speed and fluid nature of the modern battlefield guarantee that WACs will be exposed to some form of combat in the future. The soldiers, be they male or female, that do not believe this are only kidding themselves.

Can women perform in ASA division support companies? I think so. All the objections I've heard are either unproven or circumstantial. Would I want to command a DSC with women assigned? Certainly . . . allowing that the training would be equal.

At any rate, women soldiers in future conflicts will share one aspect with men. Some are going to have to fight, and some are going to be killed.

You've come a long way baby!

The Army Way

No Combat Duty for Women

Army policy is and traditionally has been not to assign women to combat duties. While there is no statute specifically directing the Secretary of the Army not to make such assignments, the policy is firmly grounded in precedent, public sentiment against such assignments and the expressed intent of Congress to limit women's assignments to noncombat positions.

Title 10, U.S. Code on the Armed Forces prohibits female members of the Air Force and Navy from being assigned to duty in aircraft engaged in combat missions or to duty on vessels other than hospital ships and transports.

The following regulations translate national policy into Army policy:

AR 611-201 precludes assignment of enlisted

women to 35 combat or close combat support MOSs

- AR 600-200 precludes assignment of enlisted women to Category I units

- AR 310-25 defines Category I units as those whose mission includes seizing and holding ground in addition to destroying the enemy and its corresponding headquarters and service companies together with a unit whose mission includes the destruction of the enemy in support of or assistance to the ground gaining troops by fire or other tactical support

- AR 310-49 precludes assignment of women officers to Category I units

- AR 611-101 precludes assignment of women officers to combat arms



Watch Your Leave

The new fiscal year 7T which you are now struggling through is actually considered part of fiscal year 1977 for leave purposes anyway.

That's the word from the Department of the Army's Office of the Comptroller.

Thus, your leave year will be a 15 month period, beginning July 1, 1976 and ending Sept. 30, 1977. Your leave balance must be reduced to the maximum 60-day carry over by the Sept. 30, 1977 date.

However, if discharge, retirement or death occurs during this period, you will still be limited to payment for only 60 days of accrued leave.

It's important to remember that a recent Congressional decision established a 60-day maximum on the number of days of accrued leave for which a soldier can be paid during his entire Army career.

Spirit-Yes, Injuries-No

Nothing prompts more esprit de corps than a season of combat football . . . it provides soldiers who serve together all day in a sometimes sterile environment a chance to "let it all hang out" on the sporting field. However, injuries that could affect a unit's mission are always possible.

In view of this, the Department of the Army is developing detailed rules and regulations to govern combat football. Until their release later this year, some minimum requirements have been established.

Game officials and all individuals acting in a supervisory capacity relative to combat sports are to be provided with an orientation on the potential dangers and proper preventive and corrective actions to be taken.

Players, prior to participating in a contest, are to be briefed on sportsman-like conduct and practices. And, facilities and equipment must be in top quality shape.

The guidelines emphasize that combat football will be played "only in official sports programs and competition unless otherwise approved by the in-

stallation or division commander. These special competitions must meet the same rules afforded regulation games.

Especially stressed in the guidelines is the fact that all team members must be volunteers and that qualified medical support must be present during the duration of the game.

In issuing the guidelines, the Department of the Army reemphasized that playing combat football has been found to be beneficial in building and maintaining physical fitness and developing teamwork, esprit and morale.

Oh, My Aching Head

Ever wish you could get that "steel pot" off your head? Well, relief may be on the way.

Beginning this month, the Department of the Army will test a new helmet for troop use. It's lighter, offers better protection, feels more comfortable and affords a better fit.

However, the new helmet will not be able to double as a boiling pot for the morning shave water or coffee. It's made from laminated "Kevlar" a new fiber and fiber glass, and unlike the present "pot" does not have a liner.

It will also come in a choice of small, medium or large sizes and the smallest one will weigh approximately 6 ounces less than today's version.



Get a Headstart

Eligible E-4s and E-5s can get a headstart on the administrative requirements for promotion if everybody reads the fine print in the reg.

According to paragraph 7-15d, AR 600-200 (change 57), recommended E-4s can go on the E-5 list with only 21 months TIS. By the time they have waited the required three months on the recommended list, they will have reached the 24 months waiverable TIS requirement.

The same setup applies to E-5s at 45 months.

Wear Your Branch

Soldiers are going to find the insignia hassle cleared up by several upcoming changes to enlisted insignia wear.

The first of three major changes affecting enlisted soldiers goes into effect Oct. 1 when they begin to wear the branch insignia of their primary MOS. This change eliminates the problem of switching insignia at every new unit. The soldier will continue to wear his branch insignia as long as he remains in his MOS.

Exception to this is the basic trainee who will not wear a branch insignia but will wear "U.S." insignia on both collars and lapels.

After Oct. 1, command sergeants major (CSM) will wear the "branch immaterial" insignia—formerly "unassigned-to-branch".

The third change has produced an new insignia design for NCOs assigned to Inspector General duties. The approved insignia for these soldiers is similar to the one worn by officers serving as IG. It should be available by mid-1977 through IG channels. Till then, IG NCOs will wear their primary MOS branch insignia.



Care Policies Revised

Officer and enlisted personnel with an established release date can only be continued on active duty for medical care when hospitalization or physical disability processing is required.

This is only one aspect of a major revision in Army personnel policies recently approved by the Secretary of the Army.

Other portions of the revision related primarily to dependent medical care.

Requests for continuation of duty for personal medical reasons must be submitted to designated approval authorities for review and approval. Additionally, enlisted members must consent to being retained on active duty.

Officers will not be extended on active duty past their established release date solely on the basis of dependent medical problems. Short term, 90-day extensions may be granted by MILPERCEN for extreme hardship in those cases where Federal law does not impose a mandatory release date.

These requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis after being forwarded to the Office of The Surgeon General.

An extension of up to 12 months may be requested by enlisted members based on dependent medical problems.

The new provisions were established to eliminate several major inequalities found in the old policy. These included:

- lack of proper guidance, control and approval of extensions for Army personnel requiring medical care,
- provisions which stated that only certain categories of officers and enlisted personnel could be extended on active duty for dependent medical reasons,
- and, the fact that reserve and regular Army officers designated for involuntary release because of non-selection for permanent promotion had release dates established by law and could not be extended on active duty for dependent medical problems.

Schooling Comes First

In the classroom as on the job, you'll have to earn your money first before Uncle Sam sends a check.

That's the latest word from Congress concerning advance GI Bill educational allowances.

Appropriation legislation for FY 77 passed recently by Congress gives the Veteran's Administration until July 1, 1977, to begin paying allowances after they have been earned.

However, the legislators are allowing VA to give up to two months' advanced GI Bill benefits only at the beginning of the school year to veterans and servicemen "with a true financial need." This the congressmen emphasized, would be the exception not the rule.

You'll Get Two Scores

Military personnel taking the new skill qualification tests (SQT) will get back two scores—the results of the actual test and the EER/SEER as the other according to Department of the Army officials.

The two scores give selection boards and personnel managers a better overall picture of the soldier's ability and potential.

Four MOS groups, 11B, 16J, 45B and 95C, will participate in an Armywide SQT field test in October. Scheduled for testing during 1977 are CMFs 11, 95, 16, 63 and 74.



Do you like crossword puzzles?, they said, and I admitted that I did . . . that was my aptitude test for cryptanalysis," recounted Colonel Richard B. Mosser. That was 34 years ago and Dick Mosser had just enlisted in the Army's Signal Corps branch.

After the crossword-cryptanalysis test, the future commandant of the USASA Training Center and School learned morse code after duty hours at Vint Hill Farms Station, VA, and got in on the ground floor with the Army Security Agency.

"Later on, I faced the choice of either getting promoted to E-5 as an instructor or going to OCS. I chose the lesser of two evils. But looking back, he says, "I wouldn't change much; I'd play it pretty much like I did.

"Oh, I would have gotten my education faster," the colonel mused, "It took me from 1940 to 1964 to get a B.S. I was always a slow developer!"

In the late 1960's, Mosser became commander of Ethiopia's Kagnew Station, what he considers to have been his choicest assignment.

"It was the most fascinating because of the uniqueness of the place," he comments.

The exotic appeal of Haile Selassie's mountain kingdom was not without difficulty . . . in particular in Col Mosser's mind was the 1969 drought which left little drinking water for the tiny American settlement.

Water, trucked in from wells in the lower valleys, was rationed to the point that water pipes in family quarters were filled only two hours a day.

"I guess that water shortage was the greatest personal challenge I faced because it affected the lives and welfare of the entire community. I never read the stock market as closely as I read the water reports then," he soberly recalls.

"I'll never forget the time we thought our water supply had been poisoned by the guerillas. The medics did some tests on it and concluded there was arsenic in the water," the colonel continues.

"There we were with precious little in the way of drinking water and then to have it poisoned! So we started to dump it. As the water ran down the gutter, the medics tried one more test and discovered they had used dirty test tubes . . . the water was ok," he says wryly, "and we were able to save half of our supply."

While commanding that remote field station, Col Mosser began writing a weekly column for the post newspaper. Called "Bird's-Eye View", his column chided rumor mongers with made-to-order parables, urged innovation in water conservation and generally served as another outlet for the colonel's folksy, thoughtful way of doing business.

The column followed Col Mosser through the years and most recently graced the pages of USASATC&S's *The Fountainhead*.

Close-up



Dick Mosser

From Crosswords to Cryptanalysis

by John Rasmuson

If it was Ethiopia that provided the greatest challenge, it was Vietnam that added the gusto.

"It was exciting in spite of the fact that it wasn't a good place to be," he says. "It was so much fun to be involved in current intelligence work because it was fascinating to watch things develop. You didn't mind the 12 hours on and 12 hours off. You were seeing immediate results."

Times change...the war is over...technology holds sway over the future.

"The change in the state of the art has taken some of the fun out of intelligence work because it has lessened the degree of human participation," he adds with obvious regret. "Now the trick will be to have fun making machines to do their thing."

The now retired Col Mosser puts a lot of stock in human participation, particularly when concerned with the Army.

"The Army is full of opportunity. It can make people greater than they ordinarily would be," he comments. "Take me, for example, from an eight-dollar a week job to commandant of an institution."

Although his 34-year career has ended, he is not without concern for the military. "Most of the changes I've seen over the years are for the better. Today's Army displays a higher degree of managerial common sense and practicality which provides a sounder basis for doing things. In the old days, we operated more on gut feelings."

Common sense, he observes, is a two-edged sword. "Our over-reliance on statistics is blinding us

to our practical, personal feelings; and we're so common sense oriented, we're moving away from discipline."

However, he is quick to add that "although justification and persuasion are desirable, you get to the point where when you say 'do it' they just have to have faith and react."

"Blind obedience isn't the answer for today's soldiers, but too much questioning is not healthy in an Army either," he says.

And as he reflects on the "new Army", he thinks about his retirement future, a home in Virginia, a garden and perhaps a masters degree...and remembers another leave-taking...years ago in Ethiopia.

At the farewell dinner for the Mossers in Ethiopia, it came to the point in the program for his remarks "Now, don't get maudlin," cautioned the executive officer; and while he wasn't, nearly everyone else was. And as many, many people will attest, it's almost impossible to be dispassionate about a man of Col Mosser's caliber and charm.

When today's housewife buys freeze dried foods, canned bakery products, or instant beverages, she may wonder who made these convenience foods possible, but she would probably not guess the answer. The United States Army.

The Army's 201st Birthday not only honored a force which has fought nine major wars involving 167 campaigns, but also a force which has provided many non-military benefits to the U.S. citizen.

Through the years, the Army has made significant contributions to the fields of medicine, education, economics, sociology, civil works, technology and disaster relief. A few examples:

Army physicians have assisted materially in providing the cure for digestive system disorders, improving hospital hygiene, treatment of mental illness, prevention of malaria and hookworm, and finding cures for many other illnesses.

Thanks to Army Research Life's a Little Easier Today

Today's National Weather Service is a direct descendant of the weather service founded by the Army's Signal Corps, and the Corps developed much of the instrumentation that has gone into modern weather forecasting.

The Army Corps of Engineers is the Nation's foremost water resources development and management agency, to include being a prime mover in the current drive for clean water. Its successes also include developing the waterways and harbors which today link our country to the ports of the world.

The Army has traditionally played a major role in disaster relief to include such disasters as the Alaskan earthquake of 1964, Hurricane Agnes in 1972, and the

recent earthquake in Nicaragua and Guatemala.

Not well known are its yeoman efforts to help the tens of thousands of Civil War refugees who were without means of support. The Army's Bureau of Refugees at that time fed the needy, monitored labor contracts to assist in providing jobs, resettled people on Bureau acquired land, and operated many hospitals.

The spillover of military research into the civilian sector continues today. For example, Army scientists and engineers have devised a system to convert many kinds of waste into glucose sugar, and it is technically feasible that this process will be in operation on a large scale by 1980, thus solving one of our Nation's major ecological problems.



SP5 Fischer

Soldier Saves Boy's Life

Specialist 5 Thomas J. Fischer, stationed with the 504th ASA Group at Hunter Army Airfield, GA, was recently awarded the Soldier's Medal for saving the life of a Georgia youth.

While surf fishing with his family at Savannah Beach, SP5 Fischer spotted three boys having difficulty swimming in a receding tide. The father of two of the youths went to their rescue but was endangered when both clung to him.

Specialist Fischer entered the surf, swam out to the father's aid and helped one of the youths, David Surber, back to the shore.

In presenting SP5 Fischer with the award, Lieutenant Colonel James B. Norris, acting commander, noted that the enlisted man's actions averted one and possibly three drownings.

Fiestas to Rodeos

Summer's Been Active For Agency Units

FT CARSON, CO . . . When a Ft Carson unit trains downrange these days, it's a pretty good bet that the 374th ASA Company is somewhere close trying to foul up their communications.

Inactive since 1972, the company was reactivated in late June complete with 170 enlisted personnel and 12 officers. Commanding the unit is Captain John Aug.

Designed to provide the 4th Division with signal intelligence and electronic warfare support in time of war, the 374th will presently serve in a training and advisory role.

Before the unit's deactivation four years ago, it was highly decorated for service in Vietnam. Awards included three Meritorious Unit Commendation streamers, three Vietnamese Crosses of Gallantry with Palm streamers and a Vietnamese Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class, streamer.

FIELD STATION MISAWA . . . A dinner-dance and a bicentennial program highlighted Field Station Misawa's observance of the Army's 201st Birthday.

The program "Banners of Destiny" portrayed the history of the United States through her flags and military uniforms.

Distinguished guests on hand for the celebration included the

Honorable Donald G. Brotzman, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and Lieutenant General John R. Guthrie, Commanding General US Army Japan/IX Corps.

Members of the unit portraying the American soldier through the different stages of our past included Staff Sergeants Al Armstrong and Gary Murphy, Specialists 5 James Hill, James Antill, Tony Washington, Johnny Wilson, Douglas Sherd and Derral Howard, Privates First Class Kelly Burdette and Kristin Thornbloom and Private 2 Diana Pike. The narrator was Specialist 6 David Engleman.

and later in Misawa . . .

The largest Fourth of July celebration in Misawa's history was staged this year with personnel from the field station playing an active part.

"Education, Our Learned Heritage" was the theme for the field station's float. Constructed under the supervision of Specialist 5 Patrick Verbeten, it highlighted our nation's emphasis on education.

Leading the parade was the field station honor guard followed closely by honor guards from the other three services.

After the parade, tri-service personnel dedicated a "time capsule" containing objects of the

seventies including photos of servicemen and women in uniforms of all the services stationed at Misawa.

A carnival, entertainment and fireworks display rounded out the day's activities to which over 20,000 Japanese were invited.

PENSACOLA, FL...With flags flapping in the breeze and weapons glistening in the bright sun, Corry Station's multi-service color guard marched in the annual Armed Forces Day parade in Mobile, AL.

Leading the color guard was Staff Sergeant Linwood Harris.

GOODFELLOW AFB, TX... For nine days this year, members of the USASA Training Center and School Goodfellow Detachment participated in the San Angelo Bicentennial Fiesta Del Concho celebration.

A formal military color guard, a marching platoon carrying guidons from the 3rd and 4th Infantry and the 9th and 10th Cavalry units along with a rifle platoon marched in the opening day parade.

The guidons represented units that distinguished themselves while serving in the West Texas area.

Other detachment members dressed in old cavalry uniforms dating from various eras participated in a flag retreat ceremony at Ft Concho, a historic cavalry post in San Angelo.

Fifty state flags surrounding The Army Flag composed the detachment's float entry in the Fiesta Del Concho River Float Parade.

Stationed at the four corners of the float were detachment personnel dressed in uniforms and carrying weapons from different historic periods.

This is the third year the detachment has participated in the festivities.

VINT HILL FARMS STATION, VA...When one thinks of a rodeo, he usually envisions bucking broncs, twisting bulls and speedy little calves.

But not the case at the annual Bycycle Rodeo sponsored by the Vint Hill Farms Station military police.

Given points for skill and safety procedures, the VHFS youths also received an inspection of their bikes by the MPs.

It's a novel way to approach summer biking safety.

Other recent happenings at VHFS include the reactivation of the Military Affiliated Radio Station, better known as MARS. The newly opened facility is dedicated to Lieutenant Colonel James R. Hagan, who ran the old MARS facility from 1962-1963. He was killed in action in Vietnam in 1964.

And elsewhere at VHFS...

Day long events honoring patriotism were held at VHFS on Flag Day, June 14.

A flag ceremony, honoring all U.S. states and territories was presented by Captain Daniel R. Burns. Music, accompanied by thundering cannons, was provided throughout the ceremony by the Ft. Lee Army Band.

Special guest for the ceremony was Brigadier General William I. Rolya, USASA Commander.

The formal program was followed by a picnic, fireworks and afternoon of entertainment.

FIELD STATION SOBE...Special weapons and tactics demonstrations and guard dog exhibitions highlighted Law Day ceremonies at Torii Station.

A newly formed Torii Station Swat Team provided a mock demonstration of weapons and tactics procedures.

The ceremonies began with a ribbon cutting ceremony which officially marked the beginning of full time operation for the newly renovated Military Police Facility.

FIELD STATION AUGSBURG...

...They had to come to an end... those intriguing stories about "life on the border". And they ended with the closure of Field Station Augsburg's three main border sites.

The end started in late 1975 when no further personnel were assigned to the three sites and earlier this year the posts ceased to exist... giving way to a new era of advanced technology.

It's all history now... the end of another ASA era.

Manning the recently reactivated Vint Hill Farms Station MARS airway is SGT Raymond Lemp. (US Army Photo)



Tennis, Bowling, Track Bring Honors to ASAers

On the sporting scene...

Staff Sergeant **Johnny K. Malaspina**, senior instructor at the **USASA Training Center and School**, captured top honors in the Fort Devens, MA, 1976 Bicentennial Golf Tournament.

The Interservice Bowling Title, in a tournament held at Ft. Campbell, KY, was recently won by Chief Warrant Officer **Garlon W. Spelce**. Assigned to the **856th ASA CO (DS)** in Frankfurt, Germany, CWO Spelce was one of the twenty bowlers from all the services selected to participate.

Posting an impressive 44-8 season win-loss record the **USASA Field Station Korea** basketball team dribbled into the divisional competition, taking first place. Although they lost the Camp Humphreys regional title, the underdog ASA team bounced back to triumph over the Pusan Garrison Team winning the Korea Area South Basketball championship.

From there it was on to the Eighth US Army basketball finals at Camp Casey where the FS Korea team notched a first round win over I Corps before succumbing to the 2d Division. In the final

match, the ASAers once again drew the 2d Div team and carried on a tooth and nail battle to a one point loss and second place in the finals.

Personnel from the **156th USASA AVN CO (FW)** at Ft Bliss, TX, have been busy the past few weeks collecting sporting honors and trophies.

Be it tennis, track, bowling or volleyball, the 156th has taken more than its share of honors.

Competition results from tennis, squash and track gave the 156th a commanding victory in the Commander's Cup for Sports Excellence.

In tennis, Specialists 4 **Thomas Klingler** and **Donnie Weaver** won the doubles play and SP4 Klingler took top honors in singles play, giving the company first place in AA Class.

First and second place in squash competition went to Specialist 4 **Richard Ulsh** and Chief Warrant Officer **John Menefee**; while members of the 156th track team earned second place by winning the 880 yard relay and placing second in the 440 relay. Specialist 4

Johnny Felton won individual honors with a first place in the triple jump and second place in the 100 yard and 220 yard dashes.

The 156th emerged from the five-day Ft Bliss volleyball tournament as the Class AA Champs. In a field of six teams, the 156th remained undefeated throughout double eliminations meet. Led by Sergeants **Billy Sloss** and **Greg Redding**, the team also took the runner-up trophy in the post championship game.

The 156th's six-man bowling team also has been chalking up honors at Ft Bliss. Compiling a total score of 8032 pins, the team took first place in the AA Class and ended up as post runner-up in the recent Ft. Bliss bowling tournament.

In the women's tournament, Specialists 5 **Kathy Jamar** and **Linda Boetticher** won the doubles championship with SP5 Jamar going on to take top honors in the singles, all events, high game and high series.

Three bowlers from the 156th, SP5 Jamar, Sergeant **William Stowe** and Staff Sergeant **Larry Wapelhorst** were selected to represent Ft Bliss in the TRADOC tournament.

Finishing third in the Ft Riley, KS, post soccer tournament was the **337th ASA CO**. Competing against players from battalion-sized units, the 337th finished the four-game tournament with a 2-2 record.

The **370th ASA OPNS CO (R)** invaded the first annual Headquarters Co USAG Invitational





SGT Billy Sloss goes up for a spike during the basewide tournament at Misawa. ASA Team members placed second. (Photo by SP4 Jeff Malone)

More Info On Filming

Sometimes, it's difficult to get all the information from our overseas units . . . especially about an event in which more than one unit participated.

The story in June's **HALLMARK** on the filming of "Twilight's Last Gleaming" is such an incident.

It's come to our attention that members of the 502nd ASA GP and Field Station Augsburg also were involved in the picture's production.

Many of the personnel played stand-in parts or minor roles in the filming.

Golf Tournament at **Vint Hill Farms Station, VA**, taking top places in the first and second flights and placing first in the championship round.

At the end of the first flight, Specialist 5 **Dennis Flury**, 370th, was first with Specialist 5 **James Pearson** of HQ CO placing second. Third place was held by First Sergeant **Dave Anderson**, HQ CO. Sergeant **John Gregory**, 370th, ranked first in the second flight followed by Sergeants First Class **Bruce Wienshensky**, HQ CO, and **Ricky Kimmy**, HQ CO.

Top honors in the championship round went to Staff Sergeant **Albert Grayson**, **Andy Anderson**, HQ CO, and retired Colonel **George Hamer**, former VHFS commander.

Two members of the **504th ASA Group**, Hunter AAF, GA, took top honors in the 24th Infantry Division Tennis Tournament. **Mike Horman** of the group and **Todd Seitz**, SIGSEC Command, battled to victory in the Hunter tournament and ended up facing each other for the championship.

Field Station Misawa's intramural volleyball team placed second in both the season standings and the basewide tournament at Misawa Air Base in Japan. ASA's 22 win, 4 loss record was second only to the Air Base Group's 24 win, 2 loss record.

The field station's softball team also took runner-up title in the pre-season tournament, losing an 11-3 bout with the Naval Security Group team.

ASA Specialist 4 **Brian Quinn** outdistanced three other **Field Station Berlin** runners and 150 Germans in the annual marathon run sponsored by the Spandau Track Club.

Patterned after the historic run by Pheidippides to Athens, the 26 mile, 385 yard course was finished by SP4 Quinn in 2 hours, 29 minutes and 47 seconds.

Coming in fourth was Specialist 4 **John Case** while Lieutenants **Jer-ry Lechlitter** and **Gary Micheau** finished in the middle of the pack.

Specialist 4 Quinn ran an average of 130 miles per week in preparation for the race.

MSG Mark

Pet Given Military Funeral

To many former Sinopians, the name Mark flickers recollections of the lighter moments of that 13-month tour.

Mark, the canine who served as companion to many and mascot of the Hippodrome facility and its crews for many years, has expired.

During a military burial service, he was laid to rest in a grave site located at the facility.

Only July 4, two days prior to his death, Mark had been promoted to the rank of master sergeant.

In dog's years, he was 95. In man years, he had served the ever-changing flow of ASAers for 14 years.

**Braving Alaskan cold or
soaking in southern heat,
our soldiers are always
preparing themselves to
perform their mission**

Mission Goes To the Field

With tactical ASA just around the corner, more and more emphasis is being placed on field training exercises.

Field Training Exercises, or FTXs as they're better known, are those times, once or twice a year, when the normally post-bound ASA soldier takes his gear to the field and goes tactical.

During the past few months, several ASA units have participated in FTXs, some complete with actual war plans and others purely for training.

Following is a summary of these.

1st ASA AVN CO

Tornadoes and severe thunderstorms added excitement to the 1st ASA Aviation Company's (CEFIRM LEADER) participation in SOLID SHIELD 76.

Conducted in Georgia and North Carolina, the 10-day training exercise saw 116 members of the unit deployed to Pope AFB, NC, aboard a C5A, three C-130s and seven of its own RU-21 aircraft.

Two areas of operations were called for in the exercise scenario. During the Georgia segment, the unit was required to modify its normal two, four-hour missions of three aircraft.

Work days stretched to 11 hours for the aircraft crews and even longer for maintenance personnel.

When exercise activity moved into the northern area of operations along the Carolina coast, the unit reverted to its normal mode of operations, providing two, four-hour flights a day.

Following completion of the FTX, with most of the 1st re-deploying to Ft Bliss, TX, one team remained to brief members of the 24th Infantry Division on electronic warfare operations.

337th ASA CO

The 337th ASA Company, stationed at Ft Riley, KS, combined a tactical training mission with a briefing at the Command and General Staff College at Ft Leavenworth.

One hundred fifteen members of the unit in 40 tactical vehicles convoyed the 240 miles, an opportunity to maintain proficiency on day as well as night convoy procedures.

Upon arrival at Ft. Leavenworth, the 337th briefed officers attending CGS on the capabilities, manning and equipment of a tactical ASA Company. The unit was joined in an operational display by the 1st ASA Aviation Co.

The college's commandant commended the 337th personnel on their "courtesy, military bearing and professional knowledge" of their mission and equipment.

AND EARLIER THIS YEAR...

Kansas' chilly, snowy winters (which seem extremely bitter to

some hardened southerners) proved quite a contrast to the bitter cold faced by 21 members of the 337th when they journeyed to the Yukon Valley for Jack Frost 76.

Jack Frost was the first exercise which really tested the cold weather survivability of the ASA peculiar electronic equipment employed by the 337th.

Included were two AN/TLQ-17s, one AN/GLQ-3 and accompanying generators and support vehicles.

Practice for the exercise began several weeks earlier with the men undergoing heavy doses of calisthenics and running at least four miles a day.

The preparation paid off when the men of the 337th reached Alaska and found themselves working in temperatures ranging from -15 degrees to -45 degrees ...and that doesn't include the windchill factor!

856th ASA CO

Terrain reconnaissance of Germany's Fulda River provided practical training for six men from the 3d Armored Division ASA Tactical Support Element (ATSE) of the 856th ASA Co (DS).

Floating down the river and using three inflatable rafts, the ATSE members collected data essential to the intelligence effort.

The ASAers divided into three two-man teams and measured the river bank slope at specific points,

identified avenues of approach, determined river depth, width and velocity and determined the traversability along certain areas. Bridges also were checked for weight classification and terrain maps were updated.

Ingenuity was the name of the game in developing equipment used to gather the data. Other than the M3 compass, used to measure the river bank slope, all of the equipment used on the reconnaissance was makeshift.

One piece of imaginative thinking provided a rubber ball to measure the velocity of the river.

Logistic support followed the river crew in a 2½ ton truck. At night, the ATSE members camped along the river at preselected sites and subsisted mainly on C-rations.

370th ASA CO

Some 200 personnel from the 370th USASA Operations CO (R) stationed at Vint Hill Farms, VA, took to the field for their annual training in May.

With their headquarters set at Wilcox Campsite, Camp AP Hill, VA, the 370th conducted six days of field maneuvers and weapon qualifications.

Tactical subjects covered during the FTX included M-16 qualification, map reading and land navigation, NBC chamber exercise, perimeter defense, camouflage techniques, survival, evasion, resistance and escape and various other platoon maneuvers.

Split into two shifts, the large unit also found some time for fun . . . in the form of rappelling.

The thirty-foot tower didn't look that high . . . until you were at the top . . . however, many a stout-hearted (and some stout-stomached) troop took the leap anyway. In a way, it was training, but a form everyone considered to be "all in fun".

(Condensed from accounts by CW4 William R. MacDonald, 1st ASA AVN CO; CPT Craig W. Bulkley, 2nd LT E. Wayne Powell, 337th ASA CO; and LT Warren Christopher, 370th ASA CO.)



PFC's Sandra Albert and Barry McGowan check on the tents to make sure they are ready for the start of Solid Shield 76.



With Georgia's mountains in the background, members of the 1st ASA AVN CO fire a .50 cal machine gun from the back of a 2 1/2 ton truck during Solid Shield. (Photo by SFC Joe Garrity)



Rifle qualification was only one aspect covered during the 370th's training exercise. (Photo by SP4 Gerald S. Harvill)

EW Pantsuit Tops Fashion News

Fashions are in the news for the military this Fall . . . not only for the gals but for the guys as well.

Hottest new item is the Army green pantsuit, consisting of slacks, jacket and gray-green turtleneck overblouse. Already available through the PX system in a wash'n wear synthetic material for \$63, the new pantsuit will be available through issue channels in November 1977. The issue item—made of a wool-polyester blend—will retail for \$65.

Military policewomen will get a set by late fall. The pantsuit is worn with the turtleneck overblouse during the winter months and becomes a new outfit when the white shirtwaist is added as an outer garment during the summer.

Insignias are worn on the pantsuit in the same manner as on the women's green uniforms.

Complimenting the ensemble will be the black pump service shoe and either the garrison cap or the black beret.



An improved version of the beret will be available come December in the issue stores for \$6.72. The new beret will replace the AG 44 and 160 garrison caps.

Entering the fashion scene in January will be a new women's handbag . . . it's lighter, larger, less expensive and more durable than the leather one. The PX will stock the handbag for \$18 or you can wait till November and get it through issue channels for \$15.

The women's summer uniform—a wash'n wear knit polyester—will replace the current summer cord uniform. The new suit is now available for \$63.75 in PXs—the issue store won't stock this item until 1977 when it will sell for \$62.80.

Wider ties, durable press tan uniforms and new tan shirts highlight the men's fashion horizon.

A new men's tan shirt for wear with greens will have longer collars that will look better with a newly approved wider tie. The shirts sell for \$7.50 in the PXs and will be available in September in the issue stores for \$5.07. The corresponding ties sell for \$1.15 in the PX and are four cents cheaper in the issue store.

For \$10.89, you'll be able to purchase a durable press tan uniform destined to replace the cotton khakis.

And in January, for a yet undetermined price, you can get durable press men's fatigues. Now being tested by the Marine Corps, the Army has gained limited approval to use the wash'n wear fatigues.

When you're outfitting yourself for the new season, don't throw away those old uniforms. They're still wearable. And the Department of the Army will gladly announce "wearout" dates as the new uniforms enter the supply system.

Changes affecting quarters allowance, unused leave repayment and appropriated fund support to commissaries went into effect with the signing of the FY 77 DoD Authorizations-Appropriations Bill.

First, the new law permits up to 25 percent of any future pay raise to be included in the quarters allowance (BAQ).

In including this measure in the legislation, both the Senate and the House of Representatives rejected the administration's "fair market rental" proposal. Included instead was a provision for a rebate to single personnel living in barracks and bachelor officer's quarters.

Repayment for unused leave is now limited to 60 days during a soldier's career according to the new law. And, in addition, a military member is no longer entitled to payment of quarters and subsistence allowances for leave accrued.

The new action did eliminate what many military personnel and the joint congressional conference considered an inequity.

This was the entitlement of officers and enlisted personnel to different amounts of BAQ and BAS. The new provision treats the recipients of unused leave payments in the same manner.

New Policy

Revisions Will Affect Leave, Pay

While the Congress rejected a proposal to phase out appropriated fund support to commissaries over a three-year period, the new law calls for the institution of economy measures for the purpose of reducing the present subsidies of the commissaries.

Warrant Officer, Civilians Honored for Suggestions

A warrant officer from Ft Devens and two civilians from Vint Hill Farms Station have been nominated for Presidential Letters of Recognition for their management improvement actions.

Chief Warrant Officer Ronald

The Secretary of Defense has been directed to report by Feb. 1, 1977, the progress in improving efficiency while reducing operating costs.

A fourth provision of the legislation is the termination of the 1 percent kicker in addition to the cost-of-living increases for retired personnel, contingent upon similar elimination for civilian employees.

Other provisions of the newly signed legislation include the continuance of bonuses up to \$13,500 per year for military doctors, an authorized FY 77 end strength of 789,000 for active Army personnel, and authorization for procurement of military equipment, research and development, training loads and reserve component force levels.

Sheridan, Samuel H. Jones and Charles R. Peterson submitted suggestions that improved their work quality and resulted in monetary savings to the government.

While working with coil assembly radio frequency amplifiers on the AN/GLQ3, CW2 Sheridan determined that burned out coils could be repaired instead of replaced.

This action saved the agency a considerable amount of down time for equipment and resulted in a first year savings of \$6,000.

When instructed to replace wooden racks with metal storage racks at Vint Hill Farms Station, Mr. Jones and Mr. Peterson decided to contact other government agencies in order to locate used metal racks.

Enough racks were obtained in this manner to save the VHFS Garrison approximately \$9,500.

Can You Beat This

It was a double anniversary in July for the 298th Army Security Agency Company (OPS Rear).

The reserve unit, located at the Hancock USAR Center, Ft. Hancock, NJ, celebrated its 20th anniversary on July 26 and First Sergeant Paul Lieberman marked his 20th year as first sergeant with the unit.

First designated in 1956 as CO A, 310th ASA BN the unit was later redesignated as CO D, 323D ASA BN before gaining its present name.

Company Commander is Gary L. Shaw, CPT MI USAR.

Can any other ASA reserve unit beat this anniversary record?

Military Vote Result Of Long, Hard Fight

The hoopla of an election year is upon us . . . candidates have been chosen . . . speeches are being made . . . and soon the votes will be counted . . . will one of those be yours?

American soldiers away from home have not always enjoyed the right to cast their ballots.

Prior to the Civil War, only two states, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, granted that right to their military citizens.

After the war as the country and its military force grew, more and more states formulated their own absentee voting laws.

Today, every eligible service member and every eligible

member of his family are entitled to vote in state, county, local and national elections by absentee ballot.

Since each state established its own system, the deadline dates for absentee registration, ballot request and ballot receipt vary greatly.

Your voting counselor has charts showing these various deadlines as well as Federal Post Card Applications for an Absentee Ballot.

If you haven't visited the voting officer or counselor already, perhaps you should.

Our right to vote was one of the driving factors in the Revolutionary War and one of the great foundations of our government today. It's a right you must use to preserve.

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I say that if a general restriction is clamped down, the officer caught violating it is in much more serious trouble than the enlisted offender.

What then, can enlisted personnel expect when an officer attempts to exercise some of his "attendant privileges"? You can expect this, and though it has been said many times before, it can be said again: It is the paramount and overriding responsibility of every officer to take care of his men before caring for himself. From the frequent and gross violation of this principle by badly informed or meanly selfish individuals comes more embarrassment to the officer corps than perhaps from all other causes put together. It is a cardinal principle!

When a command is worn, bruised and hungry, officers attend to their men's creature comforts and make sure that all is going well, before looking to their own needs.

If an officer is on tour with an enlisted person, he takes care that the individual is accommodated as to food, shelter, medical treatment, or other prime needs, before satisfying his own wants.

Suppose the two just happen to meet in a strange community. The enlisted man's creden-

tials are shown to be bona fide, but he has had his pocket picked or he lost his wallet, or he has just missed the train that would have carried him back from his leave on time, and he doesn't know what to do. For any officer to brush off a forthright request for aid or advice under such circumstances is an unofficerly act.

Likewise, if an officer suspects, just from appearances, that the man is in trouble and possibly over his head, it will be found that, far from resenting a kindly inquiry, he will mark it as a credit to the whole fighting system.

What then, can enlisted personnel expect from an officer when the enlisted is in trouble? You can expect the officer to show those gentle qualities bestowed by Congress. You can expect the officer to be a gentleman or gentlewoman. The gentle qualities are: dedication to human rights; respect for the dignity of the individual; fair play to all and favoritism toward none; and active concern for all aspects of human welfare; and, the will to deal with every person as considerately as if he were a blood relative.

In short officers must be human.

Since I told you what I expect of officers,
NOW WHAT DO YOU EXPECT?

**CPT Daniel J. Mihelich
CDR 371ST ASA Co**

What an Officer Expects of Himself

There is a common saying in the services, and elsewhere, that greater privileges grow out of larger responsibilities, and that the latter justify the former. This is partly true and partly false. In a military organization, as in industry and business, the more important a man's position, the more lavish he is likely to be in his office appointments and living arrangements, and greater care is apt to be taken to free him of trifling annoyances.

However, since it is from abuse of privileges that much of the friction between authority and the rank-and-file arises, the subject cannot be dropped here. What puts the most grit in the machinery isn't the mere fact that privileges exist, but that they are exercised by people who are motivated by something other than a sense of duty.

It is commonly true of human behavior that a person who is concerned most of all with his responsibilities will worry the least about the matter of his privileges, and that his exercising any rightful privilege will not be resented by subordinates. They will feel that he has earned them.

In recent years, we have learned a lot about American manpower. We have seen enough of the raw materials under testing conditions to know that American youth, when brought into the military, do not resent rank and are amenable to authority. Indeed, they expect that higher authority will have certain advantages not common to everyone, because this circumstance is common to our society.

But they do not like to have their noses rubbed in it by personnel who, having no real claim to authority, try to exhibit it. When this

does happen, our people get their backs up. They wouldn't be worth a hoot if they didn't.

Actually, in these times, there are relatively few special privileges that attend officership as such. Though our recent wars have prompted some excesses, the overall trend has been in the opposite direction. The unrelenting pressure of Korean operations affected all personnel alike. The officer who "rode shotgun" for his jeep driver virtually counted that guarding a privilege. The lieutenant "checkerboarding" on a long range reconnaissance patrol in the Vietnam jungle was no better off than his men. He wore the same dress, ate the same chow, attracted as many leeches and waited his turn at medivac when wounded or hit by malaria.

Normally, an officer is not expected to stand in a chow line. The presumption is that his time is more valuable to the service than that of an enlisted person. Normally, an officer is not expected to pitch a tent or spend his energy on any hand labor incidental to housekeeping. Normally, he has greater freedom of action and is less bound by restrictions than the ranks.

But the accent in these statements is decidedly on the word normally.

If a mess line was under enemy indirect fire, so that added waiting meant extra danger, only a coward would insist on being fed first. When there are only a few people in a section and the section's tent needs to be positioned and camouflaged, the officer's "extra hands" will make the job easier and accomplished quicker.

Greater freedom of action too can go out the window during critical times. Believe me when

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Ideas and Opinions

"The exchange of ideas is the very motor of the democratic process"

Alan Barth

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